Appl. No.:   09/483,063
Amdt. dated December 30, 2003
Reply to Office action of October 14, 2003

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Now referring to FIGS. 1 and 3, the process for recovering already-ordered software begins by inserting the CD-ROM in the CD-ROM drive 12 (FIG. 1) in step 20<u>70</u>. Once inserted, the control module 22 initiates the recovery process by first asking the user some generic inputs <u>(step 72)</u> such as the model or serial number of the purchased computer system etc. It is important to note here that information such as the model or serial number is not necessary for the recovery operation, though is<u>it</u> nevertheless can be useful for some purposes. For instance, in embodiment of the present invention, if the entered model or serial number does not correspond to the hardware configuration the CD-ROM 20 was created for, then the control module immediately terminates the recovery process and indicates to the user that the inserted CD-ROM 20 cannot be used to recover the software for that hardware configuration.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 17, line 13, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In another alternative embodiment, the non-volatile memory of the computer system does not contain the serial number of the computer system, and hence, no validation of the serial number is conducted during the software upgrade process. The process flow for the software upgrade for this alternative embodiment is shown in FIG. 5. In step 110 of FIG. 5, the customer contacts the manufacturer and orders the additional software. When the customer contacts the manufacturer, the manufacturer may optionally require the customer to provide the serial number of the computer simply to verify that a computer system has been properly purchased. Preferably, the process in step 90<u>110</u> is performed via the manufacturer's website, though other traditional modes of communication may also be used.

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Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 20, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In the next step 44, a control module 22 is written onto each of the CD-ROMs containing the software modules 24. The control module 22 controls the eventual installation of the software products in the software modules 24 onto the hard disk 14 of the computer system 5. The details of the control module's function is described later below. With the control module 2422 and the software modules 24 written onto the CD-ROM, the preparation of the CD-ROM is complete. The fully loaded CD-ROMs are ready to be shipped away when the customer order is received.